Grade 4

2016: Think about a time you will never forget.

It could be a time you felt excited, surprised, nervous, or another emotion.

Write a story about that time. Include a beginning, middle, and end. Use specific details so anyone who reads your story will understand exactly what happened and how you felt.

2015: All people experience special moments in their lives.

Think about one celebration or event that you remember well. It could be an individual, family, school, or community event.

Write a personal story with enough important details so the reader understands exactly what you experienced.

2014: Think of an activity you enjoy.

Choose a time you experienced this activity with friends, family, classmates, or by yourself.

Write a story with a beginning, middle, and end, so that the reader will be able to understand what happened. Include specific details so that anyone who reads it will understand exactly what happened.

2013: Think about a time in your life when you felt happy.

It could be a time when you received an award or gift, heard some good news, or went some place fun.

Write a story using specific details so anyone who reads it will understand what happened and why it made you happy.

Memories are something that are special to you. Think about a time you remember well. It could be a memory about a special celebration, a favorite sports moment, or a fun time with a friend or family member.

Write a story about this memory using detail so that the reader will be able to understand what happened.

Grade 4

2011:

Think about a time in your life when you felt excited and/or nervous. It could be a time when you tried something for the first time, met someone new, or performed in front of others.

Write a story using specific details so that anyone who reads it will understand the event and your thoughts and feelings.

2010:

You have many memories of your time in school. Think of a memorable event. It could be something that happened with your classmates, with a friend, with an adult, or by yourself. Think about what happened.

Write a story about this school memory. Use details so that anyone who reads your story will know what happened.

2009:

Suddenly, you have time to take a break from your normal day and do what you want to do!

Think about how you would spend your day.

Write a story about what you would do on that day so the reader can enjoy the day with you.

2008:

Summer is a time when you can do things you may not be able to do at other times of the year.

Think about something you did during the summer that you remember well. It could be something you did with a friend, with your family, or by yourself. What happened?

Write a story about this summertime memory. Use details so that anyone who reads your story will know what happened.

2007:

Helping others is important. Think about a time when you helped someone.

It could be a time when you helped a friend, a teacher, a neighbor, someone in your family, or even someone you didn't know very well. What happened?

Write a story using details so that anyone who reads it will understand what happened when you helped this person.

Grade 4

2006:

Think about a time when something unexpected happened to you.

It could be when something funny happened, when you or someone else did something unusual, or when something exciting or unexpected happened.

Write a story about this time using details so that anyone who reads your story will be able to understand what happened.

2005:

Think about a time when you did something that made you feel good about yourself. It could be a time when you learned something new, a time when you helped someone, a time when you won an award or received special recognition, or some other event that made you feel this way about yourself.

Write a story about what happened so that the reader can understand why this event made you feel good about yourself.

2004:

Think about a special day that you can clearly remember. It could be a birthday, your first day of school, a day when something unexpected happened, or any day that you will remember for a long time to come. Write a story about what happened so that whoever reads your story will be able to understand exactly what happened.

2002:

Think about any experience that you remember well. It might be about a pet, an achievement, a special game, a first ride on a bicycle, or an outstanding grade. Write a story about what happened so that whoever reads your story will be able to understand exactly what happened.

2001:

Think of an event you will want to remember when you are old. Write a story about what happened so that if you read this story again when you are eighty, every detail will seem as clear as if it happened yesterday.